

A NEW SCALE INSECT ON RHIZOPHORA

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ONE TEXT FIGURE

The mangroves (*Rhizophora*), fringing tropical shores, have been found to support a peculiar coccid fauna, including *Ctenochiton rhizophoræ* Maskell in Australia, *Mesolecanium rhizophoræ* Cockerell in Brazil, and *Chrysomphalus rhizophoræ* Cockerell in Mexico. A new species is now to be described from the Philippine Islands.

Targionia merrilli sp. nov. Text fig. 1.

Female scale 3 to 3.5 millimeters in diameter, flattened, somewhat convex, circular, pale gray; first skin near margin, appearing as a small black nipplelike prominence. Young scales reddish, with the first skin orange.

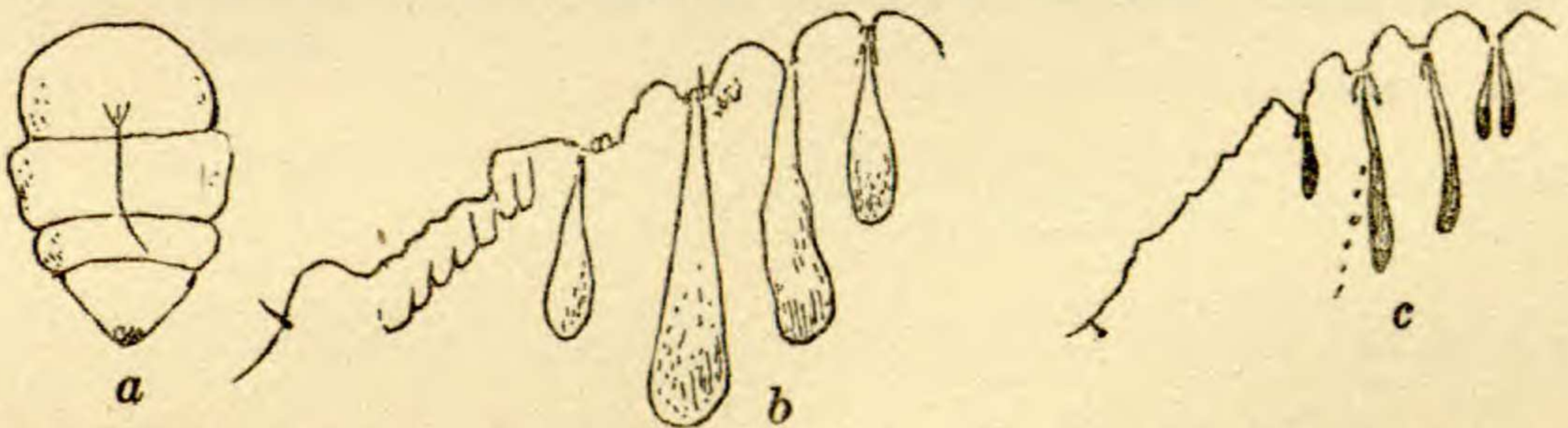


FIG. 1. *Targionia merrilli* sp. nov., a, female insect; b, caudal end of female; c, *Chrysomphalus rhizophoræ* Cockerell, caudal end of female.

Female dark brown, about 2.5 millimeters long; cephalic region broadly rounded, separated by a deep suture from the wider thoracic region; no circumgenital glands; anal orifice narrow and elongate, about 100μ from hind end; five pairs of low lobes, the first broad and close together, but not touching; second and third broad and rounded, the third sometimes distinctly notched; fourth very broad, with the margin variable, but usually more or less flattened or tablelike in outline; fifth rounded, widely separated from fourth; spines small and inconspicuous; squames very minute, rudimentary; at the bases of the lobes are long claviform paraphyses or glands, one be-

tween median lobes; one, nearly twice as long, between first and second lobes; a similar one just mesad of third lobe; and a smaller one mesad of fourth lobe.

On upper and under sides of leaves of *Rhizophora mucronata* Lamarck, Manila, Philippine Islands, September, 1918 (E. D. Merrill).

This is a very distinct species, somewhat related to *Targionia mooeri* (Green), from India, but easily recognized by the numerous lobes and large claviform thickenings or glands, which recall those of *Chrysomphalus quadriclavatus* (Green), found on *Murraya exotica* in Ceylon. Green calls these structures clubbed paraphyses. It is rather remarkable that the Mexican *Chrysomphalus rhizophoræ*, which has groups of circumgenital glands and is not closely related to *Targionia merrilli*, also has very long paraphyses. I give a sketch of the caudal end of this insect (not before figured) for comparison.



ILLUSTRATION

TEXT FIGURE

FIG. 1. *Targionia merrilli* sp. nov., *a*, female insect; *b*, caudal end of female; *c*, *Chrysomphalus rhizophoræ* Cockerell, caudal end of female.